GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5258
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2000
BAR CODING OF GOODS
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make Bar Coding mandatory for certain goods

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) the other measures stipulated to eliminate duplicating the products and enforce provisions for indicating sale price of goods?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. It is the endeavour of the Government to enhance export competitiveness of Indian products and to promote compliance with prevalent International best practices including adoption of bar-coding using international Symbologies/Numbering Systems. The revised Exim Policy (Revised Edition: March, 2000) provides for the adoption of barcoding for export goods.All export products of finished and packaged items meant for retail sale shall incorporate barcodes following International Symbologies/Numbering Systems from a date to be notified by DGFT.In addition, exports at carton/consignment levels in the sectors of readymade garments, engineering products, food products, pharmaceuticals, leather goods, sports goods, plastic goods and handicrafts shall adopt bar coding. DGFT issue a separate notification specifying the exports item for each of these sectors with their dates of implementation.

(c):The Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 provides for the protection of registered trademarks.The remedies available under the Act relate to the protection of the Intellectual Property Rights inherent in a trademark and provide both civil and criminal remedies for registered trademark owners. It also contains provisions under Section 76, 77, 78 and 79 of the said Trade and Merchandise Marks Act to prevent the falsifying or the false application of trademarks, false trade descriptions, etc. Action against piracy of products of registered brands, resulting in infringement of rights has to be prosecuted in the appropriate courts for securing civil and criminal remedies. The Standards of Weights and Measures(Packaged Commodites) Rules 1977 contain provisions for mandatory declaration of retail sale price on pre-packed commodities. The implementation of the provisions of the said Rules is done by the enforcement officials of the States/UT. Whenever violations are detected, action is initiated as per the provisions.